GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3908
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2002
SATELLITE PHONE TERMINAL
GADDE RAMAMOHAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Satellite Phone Terminal manufacture in the country for which C-DOT Technology acquired from USA;

(b) the amount spent on this so far; and

(c) the utility achieved through the investment made?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The Satellite Phone Terminal based on technology acquired from erstwhile COMSAT Lab, USA by C-DOT are not being manufactured in India.

(b) The money spent so far on this project is Rs.21.8 Crores including Earth Stations.

(c) The utility could not be achieved through the investments made because of the un-stable performance of Mobile Satellite transponders on INSAT 2C and 3B and failure of INSAT - 2D Satellite.

The characteristics of the Mobile Satellite Services(MSS) transponders on INSAT 3C launched in January 2002 are under observation. As there has been considerable delay from the initial launch of the project the demand from the users as well as manufacturability issues for remote terminals and continuous availability of MSS transponders are to be reconfirmed before revival of the project for commercial utilisation.